



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/184,186	11/02/1998	ROBERT MARC CLEMENT	2170.00013	3992

7590

01/14/2003

John J. Gresens  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER

ELVE, MARIA ALEXANDRA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1725

93

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/184,186

Applicant(s)  
Clement et al.

Examiner  
M. Alexandra Elve

Art Unit  
1725



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/21/02
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17-23, 27-32, 46, 48-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17-23, 27-32, 46, 48-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 1725

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Double Patenting*

1. Claims 1-7, 10-15, 17-23, 27-32 & 48 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-10, 13-18, 21-25, 30-34, 38-41 & 45-46 of copending Application No. 09/346,375. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-15, 17-23, 27-32, 46 & 48-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burkart et al. (CN Pat. 2,073,092) in view of Gofuku et al. (US Pat. 5,269,868).

Art Unit: 1725

Burkart et al. discloses a method and apparatus for releasing the adhesive joints of glazing screens, that is, releasing a windshield from an automobile frame. The adhesive joint includes a heatable separating member which in one embodiment is one of two adhesive beads. Upon heating by electrical energy or radiation (high frequency, microwave or infrared), the heatable separating member is destroyed at a temperature at which the other adhesive bead is not damaged. Burkart et al. does not disclose a single adhesive bead.

Gofuku et al. discloses the separation of adhesive bonded substrates. Separation entails irradiation of the adhesive using an energy beam which is transmitted through one of the substrates and is absorbed into the adhesive. In particular, the separating glass substrates are liquid crystal devices but could be applied to other substrates. The energy beam is an ultraviolet laser, but other lasers and other energy beams may be used.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the Burkart et al. separation to one adhesive bead, as taught by Gofuku et al. because it is merely a variation on a substrate adhesive structure. Additionally, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use Gofuku et al. for vehicle windows because it is not limited to substrates which are attached by a Burkart et al. type adhesive, that is, a heatable separating member, but rather applicable to substrates which are attached by a single homogeneous adhesive bead. These are used almost exclusively in the automobile industry (applicant's specification). The teaching by Gofuku that his method is applicable to bonded substrates other than liquid crystal displays and to many adhesives used by Burkart et al. to bond vehicle windows, would have

Art Unit: 1725

provided one of ordinary skill in the art with a reasonable expectation of success in applying the Gofuku process to vehicle windows.

***Response to Amendment***

4. Upon carefully reviewing Applicant's arguments filed January 13, 2003, the Examiner acknowledges the amendments to claims 1, 11-14, 17-23, 27, 29-32 & 46 and the cancellation of claims 16, 24-26, 33-45, 47 & 50.

5. Applicant's arguments filed January 13, 2003 (paper # 22) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that the prior art does not teach electrical gas discharge light energy for de-bonding. The examiner respectfully disagrees because heating by electrical energy or radiation (high frequency, microwave or infrared) is taught which encompasses light energy as per instant claims.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach carbonization of the bonding layer. The examiner respectfully disagrees because the heatable separating member (ie polymeric bonding member) is destroyed by heat.

Art Unit: 1725

***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

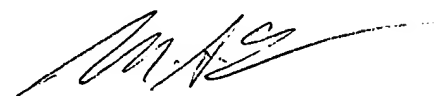
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Alexandra Elve whose telephone number is (703) 308-0092. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 6:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dunn, can be reached on (703) 308-3318. The fax number for non-after finals is 703-872-9310 and for after finals is 703-872-9311.

Any inquiry of general nature to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

January 13, 2003.

  
ANDRA ELVE  
EXAMINER